

The administration argues a nuclear energy deal with Saudi Arabia is necessary because the kingdom will otherwise take its business to other countries, leaving U.S. companies in the lurch while doing nothing to prevent nuclear proliferation.

Secretary of State [Mike Pompeo](#) on Friday was asked about the state of negotiations with Saudi Arabia but responded by criticizing the Obama administration's nuclear deal with Iran in 2015.

"I can't tell you where the negotiations sit because they're still ongoing. But make no mistake about it: We only wish that the previous administration had taken that threat seriously with respect to the Islamic Republic of Iran," he said in an interview with Norah O'Donnell on "CBS This Morning."

Pressed on whether that makes it acceptable for Saudi Arabia to be a nuclear power, Pompeo said, "We will not permit that to happen."

Congress has statutory review powers over 123 agreements and can block them once they are submitted to Capitol Hill.

But even as the agreement remains in the negotiation stage, Energy Secretary [Rick Perry](#) approved six authorizations that let U.S. companies share certain nuclear energy technology with Saudi Arabia. Such authorizations typically allow for sharing unclassified nuclear technology and services such as nuclear fuel fabrication, reactor designs and training for operating a nuclear facility, according to the Congressional Research Service.

The Daily Beast first reported the approvals, which Perry later confirmed to the Senate Armed Services Committee.

Perry told senators the Saudi-related approvals were among 37 authorizations granted since 2017, including two for Jordan, and that it's "something that goes on every day."

He said details of the approvals were not shared publicly because the companies involved determined that doing so would divulge proprietary business information.

But lawmakers were outraged when they found out they were not told about the approvals, saying the secrecy violates the Atomic Energy Act, which requires that Congress be kept “fully and currently informed” of negotiations.

In a recent hearing with Pompeo, Rep. [Brad Sherman](#) (D-Calif.) said, “It appears that this is an end run around the law in an effort to achieve a policy.”

“If you cannot trust a regime with a bone saw, you should not trust them with nuclear weapons,” Sherman said, referring to a weapon used in Khashoggi’s killing.

Sherman and Rep. [Ted Yoho](#) (R-Fla.) introduced a bill in late February that would require congressional approval of a 123 agreement with Saudi Arabia before it can take effect, as opposed to current law that says agreements go into effect unless Congress blocks them.

A companion bill was introduced in the Senate by Sens. [Ed Markey](#) (D-Mass.) and [Marco Rubio](#) (R-Fla.).

Menendez and Rubio sent Perry a letter this past week demanding information by April 10 on his approval for the six authorizations by his agency.

The two senators previously asked the Government Accountability Office to investigate the administration’s negotiations on a 123 agreement.

“The kingdom has engaged in many deeply troubling actions and statements that have provoked alarm in Congress and led lawmakers to begin the process of reevaluating the U.S.-Saudi relationship and our long-term stability and interests in the region,” the senators wrote to Perry. “We therefore believe the United States should not be providing nuclear technology or information to them at this time.”

THE HILL

Mulvaney: Democrats will 'never' see Trump's tax returns

Acting White House chief of staff Mick Mulvaney said Sunday that Democrats will "never" see [President Trump's](#) tax returns.

"Nor should they. That's an issue that was already litigated during the election. Voters knew the president could have given his tax returns, they knew that he didn't, and they elected him anyway," Mulvaney said during an appearance on "Fox News Sunday."

He added that Democrats "know they're not going to" get the tax returns.

"They just want attention on the issue because they don't want to talk to us about policy," he said.

Last week, House Democrats [formally requested](#) Trump's tax returns, with Ways and Means Committee Chairman [Richard Neal](#) (D-Mass.) asking IRS Commissioner Charles Rettig to turn over six years of Trump's personal and business tax returns.

One of Trump's personal lawyers [later urged](#) the IRS not to release the tax returns, arguing that Democrats can't legally request them. Neal made the request under a provision of the federal tax code that states the Treasury secretary "shall furnish" tax returns upon request from the chairmen of Congress's tax committees,

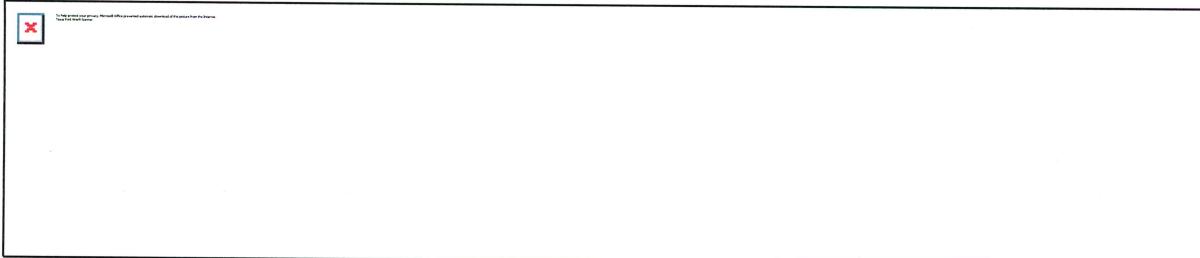
provided that the documents associated with a particular taxpayer are viewed in a closed session.

Trump has said repeatedly that he won't release his returns because he is under audit. The IRS says it does not prevent individuals from releasing their personal returns.

Mulvaney added Sunday that Democrats "know what the law is."

"They know one of the fundamental principles of the IRS is to protect the confidentiality of you and me and everybody else who files taxes. They know that. They know the terms under law by which the IRS can give them the documents, but political hit job is not one of those reasons," he said.

From: City of Fort Worth, Texas <CityofFortWorth@public.govdelivery.com>
Sent: Thursday, May 16, 2019 12:31 PM
To: Price, Betsy
Subject: Special Edition Roundup: City issues statement about whistleblower lawsuit



The Roundup

City issues statement about whistleblower lawsuit

The City of Fort Worth has issued the following statement in response to media questions about a whistleblower lawsuit that is being covered by the Star Telegram. As more information is available, we will share it with employees.

"While the City does not typically comment on pending litigation, we want to assure the public and our employees that the City takes data security very seriously. Like all large organizations, constant vigilance and new tactics are necessary to prevent and respond to data breaches. The lawsuit involves an employee who was responsible for data security and was terminated for failure to follow management direction and do the things reasonably necessary to get us in compliance. The City is in compliance with all Federal regulations and is in line with industry practice for these protection measures.

- The City was the victim of fraud in late 2017 when, due to human error, a vendor payment was redirected to a bad actor. Since that time, an arrest has been made in the case and additional safeguards have been implemented to ensure banking information updates are properly reviewed.
- In the fall of 2018, the City addressed an employee data concern with a third-party benefit partner which was immediately resolved by the vendor with additional authentication requirements.
- The Criminal Justice Information System (CJIS) audit was successfully concluded with the Department of Public Safety this spring in spite of the misinformation

presented by the plaintiff to both the DPS and the Police Department. Per the Attorney General, these audits are not publicly available since bad actors could use the information to attempt to breach existing systems.

The City is fully prepared to defend itself against these allegations."

This email was sent to betsy.price@fortworthtexas.gov using GovDelivery Communications Cloud on behalf of: City of Fort Worth, Texas
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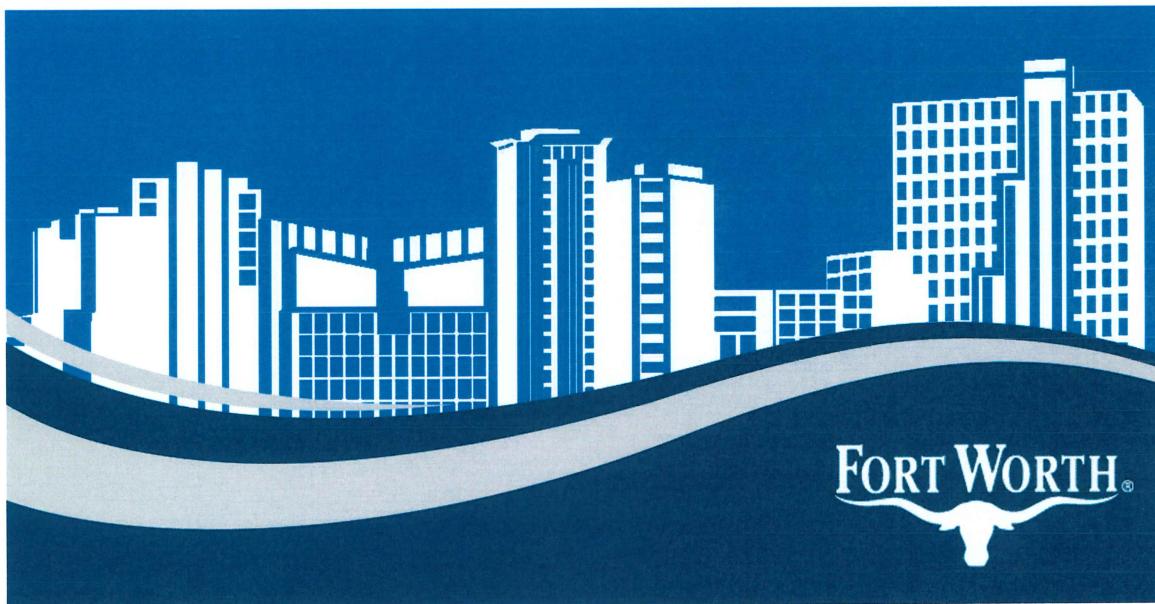
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Sent: Friday, May 17, 2019 8:07 AM
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Subject: The Roundup for May 17, 2019



The Roundup

Spotlight



[City issues statement about whistleblower lawsuit](#)

The City of Fort Worth has issued the following statement in response to media questions about a whistleblower lawsuit that is being covered by the Star-Telegram.

Headlines

Sign up today for Weight Watchers at Work

Weight Watchers' Beyond the Scale program will help you embrace new habits and bring them anywhere.

General and retired employees invited to join ACE

The Association for City Employees (ACE) meets at 6 p.m. on the third Monday of every month for discussion and information on what's new within the City of Fort Worth.

Receipts and grades due for Tuition Reimbursement Program by Friday, May 24

Paper forms are no longer accepted, so you must submit these documents online through the Forms Portal to the Human Resources Department Benefits Division by the established deadlines for each semester.

Coming Up

May 20, 2019

9 a.m. Cash Handling Procedures

FWEU Training Center, 900 Monroe St.

11:15 a.m. Yoga M/W

City Hall Fitness Room, 200 Texas St